

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The RCE is timely filed following a Board Decision (Paper No. 28). By this Amendment, claims 11, 12, 17, 18, 27, 28, 39, 40 53, 54, 63, 65, 73 and 74 were amended.

In the Board Opinion, the judges discussed in detail the difference between the claim limitations and the applied reference. The Opinion focused on the claim language whereby a single shot of irradiation is applied. The Board noted that the claim is open ended using the transitional phrase “comprising.” See page 6, line 5. The Board also specifically discussed that the applied Miyasaka reference discloses “a single shot irradiation as the first exposure.” See page 6, last paragraph. The Board acknowledges that the single shot discussed in Miyasaka is an intermediary product, but “such structure is not precluded by claim 11.” See page 7, line 1. That is, in the very beginning of the process of Miyasaka, the single shot region is formed, and therefore no border regions exist. The Board also addressed that while the present specification clearly discusses the avoidance of borders in the irradiated region, this limitation is not in the claim. See page 9, lines 1-17.

Accordingly, the claims have been amended to limit the claim element to consist of irradiating the region, and that the irradiated region is a borderless irradiated region. As additional shots are required in Miyasaka, Miyasaka does not disclose, teach or suggest the use of only a single shot. In contrast, the amended claims only recite the use of a single shot.

All issues having been addressed, applicant believes that all claims are in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is requested.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-1718 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: August 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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